# G BALLS-

LOTTO watchdogs say the "fairness" of the draw may have to be investigated because Ball 38 comes out some many times.

A report has shown the number pops out at an "unusually" high rate.

frequency", some even showing a "major departure from randomness". It also said the bonus ball drawn from the Lancelot machine using one particular set of balls would usually be above 40.

However, a spokeswoman for the National Lottery Commission said checks were regularly carried out and dismissed talk of ball

irregularities

"unusually" high rate.

The Lotto watchdog's dossier, The Randomness of the National Lottery, has unearthed several worrying statistical blips and will add weight to those who question the game's fairness.

Statistics experts were baffled after focusing on more than 637 draws between the Lottery birth in 1994 and 2002.

Table 1. The Randomness of the particular to the surface of the statistical weight to those who question the statistical weight to those who are the statistical weight to those who are the statistical weight to those who are the statistical weight to the statistica

### Bonus

They highlighted ball 38's huge 107 appearances
– 14 more outings than the
next most drawn ball.

And the report said some combinations appeared with "unusually high

EIGHT of the nine men held over an alleged Lottery scam to defraud millions of pounds from UK charities have been released on bail.

Two have been bailed to a date in January and six to February, Scotland Yard said yesterday. The ninth is being questioned by the immigration service.





### Madge shoots to win

### ■ by PAUL MALLEY

POP queen Madonna, 46, has won a bitter battle to stop ramblers trampling over her £9million country estate – by warning them they could be shot. Hundreds of ramblers

had been expected to flock to her 1,132-acre Ashcombe estate in Wiltshire, from tomorrow when new right-to-roam laws come in.

But the Countryside Agency has bowed to pressure to allow the land to

be used for game shooting. This will keep ramblers out for at least six months

Nick Barrett, chief executive of the Ramblers' Association said: "I admire Madonna's capacity to keep reinventing herself but turning into a feudal landlord is a step too far."

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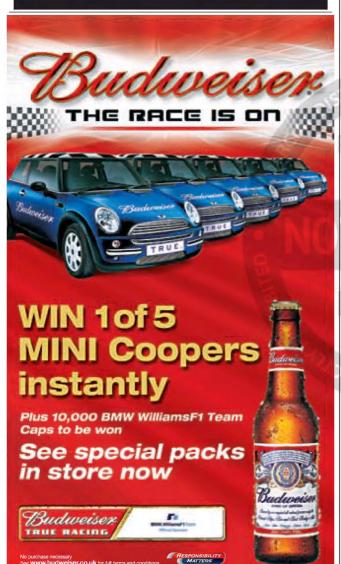
This year's Christmas single from Bo' Selecta's Avid Merrion is a comedy cover of I Got You Babe, featuring Davina McCall & Patsy Kensit and Soda Pop, the Craig David spoof from the recent third series. All proceeds from the record will go to Focus & Sue Ryder Care. This double A side is available on CD, DVD and 12" picture disc. The DVD includes videos of both tracks, the making of I Got You Babe and the 12" picture disc features a High Octane remix of Soda Pop.

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# CLUB SHUTS THE final nail on the S Club coffin has been hammered in. Teeny favourites S Club 8 look set to follow Rachel Stevens' old mob to Spitisville. After notching us his wife.

mob to Splitsville.

After notching up hits like Automatic High,
After notching up hits like Automatic High,
poodle-haired Rochelle is off to be a presenter on the BBC's Smile after their show,
IDream, and accompanying album bombed.



# Elt rockets



## Blue star ropes in pop icon

### **EXCLUSIVE**

**BLUE star Lee Ryan is in talks** with Sir Elton John to pen hits

with Sir Elton John to pen hits for his solo album.

The pair became mates after Blue re-made Sorry Seems To Be The Hardest Word with Elton, 57, which reached No.1 in Christmas 2002.

Lee, who takes a break from Blue after their spring 2005 tour, said: "I was last in touch with Elton a couple of weeks ago. "We're mates. He might be writing a couple of songs for my album, which I'm really excited about."

Not that ambitious Lee, 21, doesn't have

Not that ambitious Lee, 21, doesn't have plenty of his own tunes already.
He confided: "I'm always writing songs.
I've got about 40
piled up and I won't

do anything with them. They're too personal to give to someone else."

### Label

Busy promotional schedules have meant Lee hasn't had much time to develop his own sound. But his New Year's

resolution is to find a new record label and start afresh. He added: "I'm

going to sign to a RYAN KING: Lee different label from Blue. I want to have a Sting, Motown-vibe

to my album.

to my album."

The Blue boys have plenty to keep them busy when they go their separate ways.

Simon Webbe, 25, has an album deal, Duncan James, 25, is due to become a father and Antony Costa, 23, is going solo with a Radio Five Live performance today alongside the Brand New Heavies.

But it's Lee who insiders predict will make the biggest impression

make the biggest impression.

A source close to the singer said: "He watched **Robbie Williams** at Knebworth and said he'd love to do something that big."

With a variety of styles on the cards, I reckon **Daniel Bedingfield** might have rival for his "most bonkers an innovative bloke in pop" title.

ruffian Mark Morrison
is being blocked from releasing
a new album after he allegedly tried to
sell the record to another label.
Everton striker Kevin Campbell, who owns
2 Wikid Records, has lamped a High Court
injunction against Morrison.
Return Of The Mack singer Morrison is currently
on police bail after a fracas in a Leicester
nightclub in August.
He previously went to prison after hiring
a stand-in to do his community service after being busted in pos-

vice after being busted in pos-session of a stun gun.

HOT STORY? Call Joe on 0871 520 7090

# **Edited** by KIM **DAWSON**

ROBBIE Williams wants a Cinderella for Christmas. At a gig in Norway, Rob, 30, admitted: "I don't want to spend Christmas on my own. You know the fairytale about Cinderella? It's like I have a glass shoe and who will it fi?" "I'm a mix of the prince and Cinders. I'm Bridget Jones." It's the big pants that's the curse then, clearly.

o the stars





BIG BREAK: Noel Gallagher

### **Finding** an Oasis

THE bloke behind dance act Uniting Nations is teaming up with Alan McGee to launch the new Oasis.

Daz Sampson, 29, whose Out Of Touch is still in the Top 20, has put together The Young Offenders and McGee, who discovered Noel Gallagher, 37, and the lads, is keen to sign them.

Daz told me: "I hung around estates and court rooms to find the kids. They're a great band but I wouldn't trust them with my wallet."

Daz himself has spent time at Her Majesty's Pleasure.

Oh, and he was behind that terrible Bus Stop cover of Kung Fu Fighting, a crime in its own right.





# PETE, KEEP IT CLEAN

HERE'S the proof that estranged **Libertines** singer **Pete Doherty** has finally cleaned up his act. Well, his dirty dressing room,

Neil, the annyway...
Dishevelled Pete turned up to the Limelight in Belfast with his new pand Babyshambles, where they performed songs including new single, Killamangiro, wearing a single size rubber glove.

single, Nillamangiro, wearing a single pink rubber glove.
Unlike the rest of us, who sensibly don warm woolly ones at this time of year, Pete, 25, prefers the disposable kind to simulate certain acts while

kind to simulate certain acts while rolling around on stage. The on-off drug user displayed enough battered marks on his arm to suggest old pal Carl Barat did the right thing booting him out of the Libs until he kicks his dirty habit. A source at the gig said: "Pete was definitely under the influence of alcohol or something else. "He has suspicious marks on his arm and was throwing himself all over the place. "The crowd loved it, though, so no matter his personal problems, it doesn't look like his fans are going to desert him any time soon."

# Jake aches to write Kylie a musica

SEX thimble Kylie Minogue is a true legend. And now Scissor Sisters' Jake Shears has revealed he wants to write a musical for her. Jake calls Kylie, 37, seen here on eye-popping form in a rain-bow dress on German TV, "a lot of fun to be around". And he

Picture: AFP PHOTO

said: "Somebody needs to write the woman a damn movie musical and I would be game." Amazingly Hot's favourite camp New Yorkers, who've racked up the second biggest-selling album of the year, nearly quit their bid for stardom before signing their record deal when

Jake, 27, started coughing blood through exhaustion. Recalling the end of last year, he said: "I had lost **Ana**'s favourite T-shirt. "She was having a meltdown and wasn't sure if she could carry on. **Babydaddy** and I said if we didn't have our own

blood."
But after hard graft gigging around the UK, the band have shifted 1.5 million albums and wrote Kylie's latest single, I Believe In You, at No.2 this week

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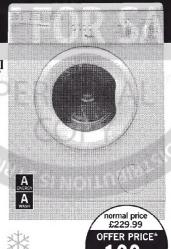
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with a bold Amaryllis One bulb topped with as many as 50 blooms of fiery red. Reference 80074. Five Hyacinths in a basket from £12.99\*. These lovely plants will flower throughout Christ-mas and beyond, filling the mas and beyond, filling the room with fragrance. When the Hyacinths arrive they will already be in bud and just need a little water. Basket diameter is 19cm.

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availability.



ringing in Corrie over the business plans of heartthrob Keith Duffy.

The former Boyzone singer told pals he wants to go into the restaurant trade like his character Ciaran McCarthy.

The 30-year-old has big

■ by BOB CRISP

ambitions to open a trendy bistro and bar in his native Dublin.

### Worried

And he wants permission to call it McCarthy's – like the Irish charmer's failed Weatherfield venture. But soap bosses fear that

if the bar is a success he will quit the Street.

Last night an insider said:

"Ciaran is popular, especially with the ladies. We wouldn't like him to go."

Pamala fans want

Female fans want Corrie to axe builder Charlie Stubbs (Bill Ward, 38) for terrorising his girlfriend Shelley Unwin (Sally Lindsay, 29).



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MORE agony for Kerry Katona after she admits herself to The Priory following the breakdown of her marriage. Sparks really fly after Steve Brookstein wins The X Factor as Sharon Osbourne lashes out at the soul singer. Meanwhile, sexy Jill Halfpenny scoops the Strictly Come Dancing crown and Robbie Williams throws a lavish West End bash.

Our OK Celebrity Chart is based on stars' coverage in Express newspapers – your Daily Star, our sister papers the Daily Express and Sunday Express – and OK!, Britain's best celebrity magazine. It's THE guide to who's hot and who's not that's got everyone talking.

### **TOP 40 ALBUMS**



1 (1) HOW TO DISMANTLE AN ATOMIC BOMB

(2) GREATEST HITS Robbie Williams 112

(4) IL DIVO (5)ULTIMATE KYLIE Il Divo Kylie Minogue Eminem (3) ENCORE

(3) ENCORE
10)10 YEARS OF HITS Ronan Keating
Maroon 5 (9)SONGS ABOUT JANE Maroon 5 (7)GREATEST HITS Shania Twain (6)WHAT WILL THE NEIGHBOURS SAY

Girls Aloud 10(12) HOPES AND FEARS 11 (14) SCISSOR SISTERS

12 (15) ALLOW US TO BE FRANK
Westlife Scissor Sisters

13(11) GREATEST HITS - MY PREROGATIVE Brit Britney Spears

14 (8) TIME TO GROW 15 (17) AMERICAN IDIOT 16 (16) BEST OF Green Day Blue

17 (13) LIVE - A TICKET FOR EVERYONE 18 (19) UNWRITTEN Busted

Natasha Bedingfield 19 (18) DESTINY FULFILLED

Destiny's Child 20 (23) MIND BODY & SOUL Joss Stone 21 (29) PLATINUM COLLECTION Genesis
22 (28) ANASTACIA Anastacia
23 (20) SINGLES Travis

(25) ROOM ON THE 3RD FLOOR McFly

25 (22) ALL THE BEST 26 (21) LOVE SONGS Phi 27 (-) CALL OFF THE SEARCH Phil Collins Katie Melua 28 (26) STARDUST – THE GREAT

AMERICAN F 29 (34) TWENTYSOMETHING Rod Stewart

Jamie Cullum 30 (33) FINAL STRAW 31 (32) THE GREATEST HITS Snow Patrol

Wet Wet Wet 32 (36) THE CHRISTMAS ALBUM

Aled Jones 33 (27) SECOND NATURE

Katherine Jenkins 34 (31) CONFESSIONS Usher 35 (30) LOVE ANGEL MUSIC BABY

Gwen Stefani Bee Gees 36 (37) NUMBER ONES Bee 37 (-) WHO KILLED THE ZUTONS

Zutons

38 (39) GOLD - GREATEST HITS Abba 39 (24) IRISH SON Brian McFadden 40 (35) OUT OF NOTHING Embrace

### THE OK! CELEBRITY

1) KERRY KATONA: The troubled star checks into The Priory after admitting she's still heartbroken over her marriage breakdown.
2) STEVE BROOKSTEIN:
Soul-singer Steve is The X

Soul-singer Steve is The X Factor winner.

3) JILL HALFPENNY:
EastEnders babe Kate waltzes to victory in Strictly Come Dancing.

4) SHARON OSBOURNE:
Mama Osbourne pulls no punches in criticising Cowell protege Brookstein.

5) SIMON COWELL: Victory for Mr Nasty but The X Factor war rages on...

6) VICTORIA BECKHAM: We



**BUMP: Pregnant Posh** 

see the first pictures of
Victoria's pregnancy bump.
7) CHRIS PARKER: The
troubled Walford boy collapses
after a night on the town.
8) CHRIS EVANS: Friends
rally round the media mogul
after he hits rock bottom.
9) ROBBIE WILLIAMS: The
Robster throws a swanky bash Robster throws a swanky bash at The Penthouse in London's West End.

10) JENNIFER ELLISON:
Jennifer sparkles at the
premiere for Phantom Of
The Opera.

# **TOP 40**

(1) DO THEY KNOW IT'S CHRISTMAS Band Aid 20 Kylie Minogue (-) I BELIEVE IN YOU (2) YOU CAN DO IT

(2) YOU CAN DO II

Ice Cube ft Mack &Ms Toi
(3) LOSE MY BREATH Destiny's Child
(4) I'LL STAND BY YOU Girls Aloud
(7) IFTHERE'S ANY JUSTICE Leman (5) BOULEVARD OF BROKEN

DREAMS Green Day

8 (-) MISUNDERSTOOD Robbie Williams

9 (6) UNWRITTEN Natasha Bedingfield

10 (11) WHAT YOU WAITING FOR

Gwen Stefani 11 (9) TILT YA HEAD BACK nristina Aguilera

Nelly & Chris 12(10) DROP IT LIKE IT'S HOT Snoop Dogg ft Pharrell

13(16)OUT OF TOUCH Uniting Nations
14(12)JUST LOSE IT Eminem

13(16) DUT OF TOUCH 14(12) JUST LOSE IT 15 (-) OBSESSION (SI ES AMOR) 3rd Wish 16 (13) IRISH SON 17 (17) CAR WASH Brian McFadden

Christina Aguilera ft Missy

18 (14) BABY IT'S YOU Join ft Row Market



19 (18) NUMB/ENCORE Jay-Z & Linkin Park 20 (15) RIDE IT Geri Halliwell 21 (8) KILIMANJARO Babyshambles 20 (15) RIDE IT 21 (8) KILIMANJARO 22 (22) VERTIGO U2 23 (21) CALL ON ME

Eric Prydz Usher Jamelia 24 (19) CONFESSIONS PART II 25 (23) DJ/STOP 26 (25) THE WEEKEND N 27 (-) SUNDAY MORNING 28 (-) RIGHT AROUT NO Michael Gray Maroon 5 RIGHT ABOUT NOW

Mousse T ft Emma Lanford 29 (26) ROOM ON THE 3RD FLOOR McFly GOOD VIBRATIONS Brian Wilson 31 (-) LONG NIGHT
32 (24) PARTY FOR TWO Shai
33 (-) RENEGADE CAVALCADE

Ash Blue 34 (28) CURTAIN FALLS 35 (-) FIFTY GRAND FOR CHRISTMAS

36 (31) MY NECK MY BACK (LICK IT) Khia 37 (29) RIGHT TO BE WRONG Joss Stone 38 (-) AN OPEN LETTER 76 38 (-) AN OPEN LETTER TO NYC

Beastie Boys
39(34) MILLIONAIRE

Kelis ft Andre

40 (38) FLASHDANCE

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# WITCHED-ON

### **CLANGER OF** THE WEEK

BAD TASTE CORNER:

"Apparently, Princess Diana went to see a clair-voyant. He was good, wasn't he?" Frank Skinner



Mean Marple

ISS Marple has been given a makeover and re-branded as Marple. I imagine the idea is to make the old girl seem all abrasive and

make the old girl seem all abrasive and gritty, like Morse or Taggart or Colombo.

In the first of four new adventures, Agatha Christie's Marple: The Body In The Library (Sunday, ITVI), Geraldine McEwan went some way towards burying fond memories of her predecessor, Joan Hickson Hickson.

Hickson.

McEwan's pointy little face, gimlet eyes and brisk "let's get on with it" manner make this new-look Marple less of a kindly gramny and more of a shrewd and sassy maiden aunt who's tougher than a pair of old button-up boots.

You feel she could wield a mean hat-pin if she was in a tight spot.

I've never seen a Miss Marple – sorry, Marple

PI – move at such a cracking pace. The story began literally with a bang, when a Second World War V2 flying bomb landed on a posh dinner party, blowing off Ian Richardson's legs.

More shocks followed, not least Marple's revelation that the murderers of dancing girl Ruby Keene were secret lesbian lovers Adelaide and Josie (Tara Fitzgerald and Mary Stockley).

This news caused chief of police Colonel Melchett (Simon Callow) to splutter into his moustache: "But...but...one doesn't come across such things!" One didn't but one may have to get used to them now.

Marple and upper-crust friend Dolly Bantry (Joanna Lumley) even shared a hotel bedroom, although they obviously could have afforded separate suites.

I'm pretty sure these sleeping arrangements were perfectly innocent (as they

I'm pretty sure these sleeping arrange ments were perfectly innocent (as they doubtless are for Rosemary And Thyme). But it never happened with Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson.

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**EXPRESS** 

### **Deluded fool** of the week

"No secrets, total honesty. That is what our marriage is based on." Sam Hunter, EastEnders.



### More woe in Walford

ACK to Misery Square, Walford, where Little Mo and Billy's allotted week of happiness together comes to an abrupt end, and shouting matches resume as normal. Where the tedious Dennis-Sharon-Zzzoe love triangle drags wearily on into its seventh (or, quite possibly, 17th) month.

And Marcus Christie, The Only Lawyer In The Village, pops up to tell Sam that runaway bruvver Phil needs a large amount of readies in a hurry, saying: "Things are very tight for him." I bet. And probably for Grant, too. But if they're strapped for cash, there's always panto. Tea lady Jane always seems to be rehearsing her next role as principal boy. Any moment, I expect her to slap her thigh and cry: "Ten miles to London, pussy, and still no sign of Dick!"

UPPER-CLASS

UPPER-CLASS
teenage slacker Tom
Smith on Young, Posh
And Penniless (Tuesday,
ITV1): "I've never understood why poor people
work so hard...How can
they expect to solve

poverty in places like Iraq and stuff, when people in England are still wearing jeans for £4?"

The revolution moves a

■HE British public's love of plucky losers pro-pelled Julian Clary into

the finals of Strictly Come Dancing (Saturday, BBC1). But in the end, Clary, self-confessed owner of two left feet, couldn't pull it

Gushing like an out-of-control Jacuzzi, presenter Tess Daly told him: "There's no doubt you are the surprise entry in this competition.

Clary, who has never been one to miss an opening, shot back: "Well, I like a surprise

entry...

Alongside twinkle-toed Jill Halfpenny –
who was always, but always, going to win
– and dashing Olympian Denise Lewis,
Clary performed like a man with
quick-drying cement in his

### **Explosion**

JTH Were

S JODIE Marsh,
struggling with her
job description on
The Frank Skinner
Show (Thursday, ITV1): "I
wouldn't know what to
call myself."
Suggestions on a
posteard, if you
the like.
Ble Jill (cuticle cutic Kate from the nail bar in EastEnders) and her professional partner Darren Bennett scored an unprecedented four perfect 10s from the judges for their breathtaking jive routine to Elton John's I'm Still Standing.

It quite exhausted me, and I was sitting down.

"Phenomenal, awesome," said Craig Revel Horwood.

Revel Horwood. "An explosion of talent," said Bruno

Tonioli.
"As a choreographer, I bow to you," said

rier, the novelty clock behind the bar of The Beadle's Arms. You must hand it to them, Jeremy. It was funny.

It's bad enough that some twonk has added an inane laugh track to Little Britain (Friday, BBC1) – but must the volume be cranked up to My Family levels? For pity's sake, turn it DOWN!

Arlene Phillips (high praise from the woman who created Hot Gossip).

"Can I call you Ha'penny?" said Bruce Forsyth. (I wanted to call her Threepennies... but that's another story) By now, Clary and his long-suffering, grimly-smiling partner Erin Boag were bringing up the rear trailing a long way behind second-placed Denise Lewis and lan Waite. pition on Skinner day, ITV1: "How what to yesti", and improved a bit since the previous week, but his dancing was still sub-standard. This remark was met by a storm of booing and jeering from the audience in the Blackpool ballroom.

Brucey asked Clary: "Have you got anything to say?"
Clary: "Silly old queen!"
Girls, girls. No bitching, please.
The whole mood of Strictly Come Dancing has been positive and upbeat. The judges were always trying to encourage and inspire even clod-hopping lummocks like Diarmuid Gavin and Quentin Willson to do better, rather than to mock and belittle them.

than to mock and belittle

That's why it appealed to millions of viewers – even those who wouldn't know a paso doble from a pina colada. Mainly, everyone was

nice to everyone else.
Too nice, sometimes.
I'm still reeling over
Esther Rantzen's comment that Erin had converted Clary into "the most virile stallion in the show."

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WEEK. "HE needs to stand up for himself." Tracey Cox, lending a helping hand to whipping boy Gary from Taunton on The Sex inspectors (Tuesday, C4).

SMALL delights from Max And Paddy's Road to Nowhere (Friday, C4) Farmer at pig market: "Have you got

Name of Muslim butcher's shop: You

And, crashing through the taste bar-

its papers, its registration? Paddy: "It's a pig, not an asylum seek-

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# There's nowtlike





# FELLAS FIT FOR A SNOG



13. Girls bust a gut to get near this well-bred cutie, who boasts the best pout in pop





15. The England captain may be smiling but he has been known to give a bit of lip to refs

# MATCH THE

LUSCIOUS lips have always been a good look - as those kissable mouths of the famous and beautiful prove.
But now, with all that mistletoe kicking

about, there's never a better time to be the proud possessor of a gorgeous north and south.

On planet celeb a pouty mouth is the absolute must-have these days - and rose-bud lips have been firmly relegated

to yesteryear.

Actually the bee-stung effect has been a a hit for any would-be sex kitten since Brigitte Bardot first appeared on the big screen but you only have to check out today's hunks to see that a juicy pout can do wonders for the boys as well.

Cosmetic procedures mean that you don't necessarily have to rely on Mother Nature for that to-die-for-mouth. More than a few famous fillies are nore than a few landus miles are rumoured to have had a little "help" with her pleasingly plump lips.

Of course, there can be a downside, and

the craze for full mouths has also provided the not-so-pleasant pleasant phenomenon of the trout pout ladies.

These gals, often of a certain age, ignore the golden rule that you can

have too much of a good thing. But for the most part, we reckon big is beautiful. And in celebration of this most kissable of seasons, we're challenging you to match some of showbiz's best lips with their well-known faces.

For most of these gorgeous lads and lasses, it's perfect pouts all round though for an extra spot of festive fun, we've added five jokers to the pack. The answers are on the right. Enjoy...





# 10 SEXY SIZZLERS WITH SUPER KISSERS







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# **JOKERS IN NORTH & SOUTH PACK**











JUST because you weren't born with them doesn't mean you can't achieve a pair of lovely lips. From clever application of lip gloss, to a more definite boost, there are a number of ways to cheat your way to that perfect pout:

**Temporary Boost:** There are now a number of products on the market which, applied under your usual lipstick and gloss, can give you plumper lips for anything up to six

# How to get yourself perfect lips

hours. Skin Doctors Perfect Pout, £19.95, helps swell the lips for a sexy, poutier look, as well as giving a rosy look to them. Call 0800 298 9600 for stockists or go to

www.skindoctors.co.uk Liquid Kiss Lip Gloss, 29, credits the plump-ing action of vitamin B6. Stockists: 0845 1207788.

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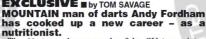
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The 30-stone champ used a fake CV to register with a "professional" organisation as part of a TV exposé of dodgy dietary advisers.

### Celebrate

Despite having no experience, he could now use it to



UNDER FIRE: Gillian McKeith

### No sale on Post Offices

THE Government last night denied it had struck a secret deal to sell off parts of the Royal Mail.

Reports are rife that Royal Mail boss Allan Leighton has privately given the green light to privatise a huge sector of the business.

It has been suggested 20% of the Royal Mail would be handed to its

would be handed to its own workers and 31% sold on the market to raise about £4billion to secure its long-term future.

But last night a spokeswoman for the Department for Trade and Industry insisted: "We have no plans to privatise the Post Office or any element of it."

From 2007, rival firms will be able to bid for

will be able to bid for will be able to bld for contracts to deliver letters and parcels anywhere in Britain – which has triggered sell-off rumours.

### FLAMING SHOCK

FIREMAN John Davies, was called to put out blazing Christmas decorations at his home in Llanelli, south Wales.



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